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December 4, 2007

PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN NO. PA 130-8-1

SUBJECT. AGN – 2007 Census of Agriculture

Purpose. Provide information on 2007 Census of Agriculture.

Expiration Date: October 1, 2008

Background. The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is gearing up to conduct the 2007 Census of Agriculture. NASS will mail report forms for the Census to farm and ranch operators beginning December 28, 2007, to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. As in the past, United States law requires that all who receive a Census report form must respond. The Census is taken every 5 years.

Explanation. NASS-PA is mailing over 98,000 letters to agricultural producers in PA. The Census forms will arrive in mail boxes the first week of January and follow-up mailings to non-respondents will occur in February and March. Since NASS-PA is a USDA agency, there is a possibility that producers may ask NRCS about these USDA mailings. The attachment is a summary of the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

Action. Our goal is to make NRCS employees aware of the Census and be prepared to help spread the word and answer questions from our customers. I ask that you support the 2007 Agricultural Census by encouraging agricultural producers to complete the Census forms. In addition, please share this information with the Conservation District and other partners. Review the attachment which has the key talking points about the Census. Your offices also may obtain promotional materials online from www.agcensus.usda.gov by clicking on "Help Promote the Census" in the box at the right of the page.

We know that we can count on your support for this important initiative, because the more we know about the Nation's farms, ranches, and related communities, the more we will be able to "Help People Help the Land."

/s/ Craig R. Derickson

CRAIG R. DERICKSON State Conservationist

Attachments (1)

Distribution: All PA NRCS Offices